

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for storing an article, comprising:
 - a tray having a bottom face that is adapted to be supported by an underlying surface such as a counter-top, and an upper face; and
 - a plurality of pegs extending outwardly from said upper face, each of said pegs being sized and arranged so as to be able to support an article, and wherein
 - each of said pegs are permanently mounted to said tray in such a manner as to be movable between a first storage position, wherein said entire peg is positioned adjacent to said upper face for storage and packaging of said apparatus, and a second, operative position, wherein said peg is positioned so as to extend outwardly from said upper surface, so as to enable said peg to support an article, wherein said apparatus can conveniently be folded for packaging and storage purposes.
2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said pegs are mounted to said tray in such a manner that no standing water may collect at a point where a peg is mounted, thereby minimizing potential for mold and bacterial growth.
3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said pegs are mounted to said tray in such a manner as to be movable only about a single axis of rotation.
4. An apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising means for imparting lateral stability to said pegs, further deterring any motion other than about said single axis of rotation.
5. An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said means for imparting lateral stability to said pegs comprises at least one axle joining adjacent pegs together for common, ganged movement about a common axis of rotation.
6. An apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising location means for locking said axle in a rotational position that corresponds to said second operative position.
7. An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said location means comprises means, connected to said axle, for frictional engaging said upper surface of said tray.
8. An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a collection reservoir defined in said tray for collecting any liquid that might run out of articles during drying.
9. An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising disk holding means, connected to said upper face of said tray, for holding baby bottle disks in a location that is isolated from areas of said tray in which liquid may collect.
10. An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said disk holding means comprises an upstanding boss member that is raised from said upper face of said tray, and a plurality of disk-receiving slots defined in said boss member.
11. An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of ring support members that are constructed and arranged to support a ring portion of a baby bottle.
12. An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said ring support members include a stop member for supporting a ring member above and out of contact from said upper face of said tray.
13. An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said [nipple] ring support members are mounted to said tray in such a manner as to be movable between a first storage position, wherein said entire [nipple] ring support member is positioned adjacent to said upper face for storage and packaging of said apparatus, and a second, operative position, wherein said [nipple] ring support member is positioned at a large angle with respect to said upper face.
14. An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said [nipple] ring support members are mounted to said tray in such a manner as to be movable only about a single axis of rotation.
15. An apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising means for imparting lateral stability to said [nipple] ring support members, further deterring any motion other than

about said single axis of rotation.

16. An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said means for imparting lateral stability to said [nipple] ring support members comprises at least one axle joining adjacent [nipple] ring support members together for common, ganged movement about a common axis of rotation.
17. An apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising location means for locking said axle in a rotational position that corresponds to said second operative position.
18. An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a cutout area on a side of said apparatus for facilitating lifting of said apparatus by a user.
19. An apparatus for drying and storing an article, comprising:
 - a tray having a bottom face that is adapted to be supported by an underlying surface such as a counter-top, and an upper face;
 - bottle support means for supporting a baby bottle; and
 - disk holding means, connected to said upper face of said tray, for holding baby bottle disks in a location that is isolated from areas of said tray in which liquid may collect, whereby baby bottle disks are and stored in a safe manner at a location that is convenient to a location at which baby bottles are being dried.
20. An apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said disk holding means comprises an upstanding boss member that is raised from said upper face of said tray, and a plurality of disk-receiving slots defined in said boss member.
21. An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said cutout area is positioned beneath said one end of said upper face.
22. An apparatus for supporting baby bottles and related accessories for drying, comprising:
 - a tray having a bottom portion that is adapted to be supported by an underlying surface such as a counter-top, and an upper portion;
 - a plurality of pegs extending outwardly from said upper portion, each of said pegs being sized and arranged so as to be able to support a baby bottle;
 - mounting means for mounting said pegs to said tray so that said pegs are movable while mounted to said tray between a first storage position, wherein said entire peg is positioned substantially adjacent to said upper portion for storage and packaging of said apparatus, and a second, operative position, wherein said peg is positioned so as to extend outwardly from said upper portion, so as to enable said peg to support an article, wherein said apparatus can conveniently be folded for packaging and storage purposes; and
 - frictional means connected to said pegs for frictionally engaging said upper portion of said tray when said pegs are moved between said first storage position and said second operative position.
23. An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said mounting means is further constructed and arranged so that no standing water may collect at locations where said pegs are mounted to said tray.
24. An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said frictional means comprises a cam member having a surface that is constructed and arranged to bear against an upper surface of said tray.
25. An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said frictional means is constructed and arranged to bear against a substantially horizontal portion of said upper portion of said tray.
26. An apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising location means for locking said pegs in said second, operative position.
27. An apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said location means comprises a cam member having a first surface that is constructed and arranged to come into contact with a cam stop surface that is defined in said upper portion of said tray.

28. An apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said cam stop surface is elevated with respect to adjacent areas of said upper face of said tray.

29. An apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said frictional means comprises a second surface on said cam member, said second surface being constructed and arranged to bear against an upper face of said tray that is on said upper portion when said peg is moved between said first storage position and said second operative position.

30. An apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising a cutout area on a side of said apparatus for facilitating lifting of said apparatus by a user.

31. An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said cutout area is positioned beneath said one end of said upper face.

32. An apparatus for supporting baby bottles and related accessories for drying, comprising:

a tray having a bottom that is adapted to be supported by an underlying surface such as a counter-top, and an upper face, said upper face of said tray being oriented with respect to said bottom so that one end of said upper face is lower than an opposite end so that water will run toward said one end during use; and

a plurality of pegs extending outwardly from said upper face, each of said pegs being sized and arranged so as to be able to support an article, said pegs being positioned away from the edges of said upper face, whereby any water falling off of an article that is supported by any of said pegs will fall within said tray, and wherein

each of said pegs are permanently mounted to said tray in such a manner as to be movable between a first storage position, wherein said entire peg is positioned adjacent to said upper face for storage and packaging of said apparatus, and a second, operative position, wherein said peg is positioned so as to extend outwardly from said upper surface, so as to enable said peg to support an article, wherein said apparatus can conveniently be folded for packaging and storage purposes.

33. An apparatus according to claim 32, further comprising a cutout area on a side of said apparatus for facilitating lifting of said apparatus by a user.

34. An apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said cutout area is positioned beneath said one end of said upper face.

35. A method of drying a baby bottle ring, comprising steps of:

(a) placing a bottle rack on a substantially horizontal surface;

(b) simultaneously moving a plurality of ring support members that are attached to the bottle rack from a first storage position to a second operative position; and

(c) placing at least one baby bottle ring on to one of said ring support members for drying, and wherein step (c) is performed so that the baby bottle ring is positioned above an upper surface of the bottle rack, whereby the baby bottle ring will not be exposed to any water that may have collected on the upper surface.

36. A method according to claim 35, wherein step (b) is performed by moving the plurality of ring support members in a pivotal motion while the ring support members remain attached to the bottle rack.

37. A method according to claim 36, wherein step (b) further comprises frictionally engaging an upper portion of the bottle rack with structure that is attached to the ring support members as the ring support members are moved from the first storage position to the second operative position.

38. A method according to claim 37, wherein step (b) further includes a step of locking the ring support members into the second operative position.

39. A method according to claim 35, wherein the bottle rack further includes a plurality of pegs and further comprising a step of simultaneously moving a plurality of the pegs from a first storage position to a second operative position, this step

being performed in no particular order with respect to steps (b) and (c).

40. A method according to claim 39, wherein said step of simultaneously moving a plurality of the pegs from a first storage position to a second operative position is performed in a pivotal motion while the pegs remain attached to the bottle rack.

41. A method according to claim 39, further comprising a step of placing at least one baby bottle on at least one of said pegs to dry the baby bottle.

42. A method according to claim 35, wherein step (b) is performed so that the ring support members are positioned over an upper surface of the bottle rack to an extent that is necessary to ensure that water dripping from the ring support members during step (c) will be caught by the upper surface.

43. A method according to claim 41, wherein the step of simultaneously moving a plurality of the pegs is performed so that the pegs are positioned over an upper surface of the bottle rack to an extent that is necessary to ensure that water dripping from the baby bottles will be caught by the upper surface.

44. A method according to claim 40, wherein step (b) is performed so that the ring support members are moved in a pivotal motion, and wherein said pivotal motion of each of the ring support members is in a plane of rotation that is parallel to planes of rotation of said pegs.

45. A method according to claim 44, wherein said ring support members are further moved in the same pivotal direction as said pegs when said ring support members and pegs are respectively moved to said second operative positions.

46. A method of drying a baby bottle, comprising steps of:

(a) placing a bottle rack on a substantially horizontal surface;

(b) simultaneously moving a plurality of pegs that are attached to the bottle rack from a first storage position to a second operative position; and

(c) placing at least one baby bottle on to one of said pegs for drying, and wherein step (c) is performed so that the baby bottle is positioned above an upper surface of the bottle rack, whereby the baby bottle will not be exposed to any water that may have collected on the upper surface.

47. A method according to claim 57, wherein step (b) is performed by moving the plurality of pegs in a pivotal motion while the pegs remain attached to the bottle rack.

48. A method according to claim 58, wherein step (b) further comprises frictionally engaging an upper portion of the bottle rack with structure that is attached to the pegs as the pegs are moved from the first storage position to the second operative position.

49. A method according to claim 58, wherein step (b) further includes a step of locking the pegs into the second operative position.